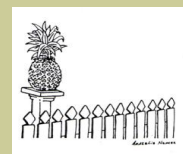


Saxe Gotha Dispatch



Museum's 2nd Family Day Is Another Success

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Family Day Photos	2
Museum Gets Rare Doc	2
Meet Lisa Reed	3
Museum Visitation	3
Calendar of Events	4
Restoration Work Underway	4
Highlighted Artifact	5

The Lexington County Museum held its second annual free Family Day on Saturday June 27. Although it was quite muggy and there was a threat of rain, the event was another huge success! More than 150 adults and children came out to the museum complex to learn more about the Cherokees that hunted and traded in what became Lexington County and enjoy fun activities. Visitors participated in a scavenger hunt, toured many of the museum's thirty historic structures, learned about archaeology and what archaeologists do, and learned about the daily camp life of Civil War soldiers. Children (and adults) visiting the event participated in a hands-on games program featuring activities from the 19th century as well. In this



Learning about Native Americans

program, visitors played outdoor games like throwing horseshoes and tug of rope similar to what Lexington children in the 1800s would have played. Free hot dogs with homemade chili and chips were served as well. Blowie the Blowfish even made a guest appearance, which was a delight to many of the young visitors.

The museum would like to send a special thanks to the

SC Archaeology Public Outreach Division (<http://scapod.org/>), the Lexington Blowfish, and all the volunteers who helped to make the Family Day a success!

Check out page two of this newsletter for more photos of Family Day or visit our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/lexingtoncountymuseum).

Museum Past and Upcoming Outreach Efforts

The museum is constantly reaching out to community groups in order to publicize the museum. Recently, museum staff members have spoken to Saxe Gotha Presbyterian Church, the Dutch Fork

Historical Society, and have given tours to several travel writers and Historic Columbia's volunteers.

Museum staff members will speak at the Lexington Main Library

and the Sons of Confederate Veterans in the coming months.

If you would like a museum staff member to speak to a group you are a part of, please don't hesitate to call.



off of Highway 176 in Calhoun County, was constructed around 1819 by Herman Geiger and served as a general store into the twentieth century. Although we don't know exactly how the Armstrong and Wentworth jug ended up in the Red Store, it may have been used to ship molasses or other items from the northern states to Charleston where they would have been shipped to general stores around the state.



Meet Lisa Reed

Lisa Reed is a rising sophomore and history major at the University of South Carolina who has been observing and assisting with our educational programs this summer. Her internship is part of a Public History class at the University taught by Dr. Robert Weyeneth, which requires students to participate in internships across the midlands at history institutions like museums, archives or with organizations promoting historic preservation. Many readers may not be familiar with the term Public History. Lisa recalls that she was drawn to the class after hearing Dr. Weyeneth explain to his students that Public History is defined by “making history work within a community.”

This applied approach to the study of history is helpful for anyone who wishes to engage the public and it resonated with Lisa, who is entertaining the idea of becoming a history teacher. She believes that Public History has helped her draw connections that can make history more appealing to people who may not be drawn to it otherwise. She explains that a lot of people think that history consists of merely memorizing dates and facts and those people grow up believing that they don't like history. Lisa states that her main goal is to make learning about history more interesting for all of her students.

In addition to her educational responsibilities at our museum, Lisa has also been working with the John Fox Papers. She has created a digital index of the names mentioned in each 19th century document within the Fox Papers housed in the museum's archives. This index

will be instrumental in assisting researchers who wish to locate information within the collection.

In her free time, Lisa enjoys studying Russian and is also a multi-instrumentalist. She is a graduate of Lexington High School and was in the Wildcat marching band as well as the Gamecock marching band where she played marimba and bass drum in the pit. You can see her playing in the Lexington County Community band this Fall. In addition to her percussion studies, she is currently learning to play the ukulele. We all look forward to seeing how her creative interests and multiple talents will direct her approach to teaching history in the future and thank her for her contributions to our museum.



Lisa Reed in front of one of the museum's quilts.

Museum Visitation in May and June 2015

The number of school groups visiting the museum tapered off a bit as summer began but the museum still saw large numbers in May and June.

926 visitors came to the museum in May. This

included visitors from nine states other than SC and two foreign countries. June was just as busy as the museum had 992 visitors, including tourists from thirteen states as well as two foreign countries.

The number of school groups stayed constant over the two months. The museum was visited by various public, private, and home school groups from Lexington and Richland Counties.

Museum Calendar of Events



Oct. 29-30 Haunted History Halloween Program
Tours start at 7 pm and 8 pm
Lexington County Museum Complex
Free admission for members of the Friends of the Museum
This family-friendly event focuses on some of the spookier aspects of Lexington County history.

Call the museum at 803-359-8369 or email museum@lex-co.com to find out more about these events.

Museum Restoration Projects Underway

Thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Lexington County Museum and all the donors who gave to the Friends at the annual fundraiser, the museum was able to begin two major restoration projects this summer. One of these projects is the restoration of the John Fox House porch. Years of wear and tear had taken a toll on the paint covering the ceiling, floor, and wall, and water overflowing from the gutters had caused some rotting in the floorboards. Work has begun in repairing the rotten wood and painting several coats so as to protect against future damage.

The other project will be the replacement of the roof of the Laurance Corley House. Work should begin on that in the next few weeks.



Danny and Dusty Gleaton work on repairing the Fox House porch

Lexington County Museum

231 Fox Street
Lexington, SC 29072

Phone 803-359-8369
Fax 803-808-2160
E-mail museum@lex-co.com

*Gateway to
Yesterday*



We're on the Web!
www.lex-co.sc.gov/museum

The Lexington County Museum was started in 1970 to collect, preserve and present the history of Lexington County. After initially having only one historic house, the museum expanded and now has thirty historic structures over seven acres in downtown Lexington. Through exhibits in historic houses, the museum interprets everyday life in the town of Lexington and throughout Lexington County from the eighteenth century to the start of the Civil War. The museum offers guided tours to visitors for a small fee and has thirteen different hands-on programs for school groups free of charge by appointment. These programs attract schools from around the state and educate students about the history of Lexington County and about the everyday life of Lexington County residents in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

The Friends of the Lexington County Museum is a non-profit group founded in 1997 with an advisory board, officers, and a board of trustees representing all municipalities in Lexington County. Its mission is to enhance the Lexington County Museum through its duly appointed commission and to support, aid, and assist in the improvement and expansion of the Museum. The Friends group sponsors fund-raising projects to help further the Museum's valuable contribution to the county, including the project described below. The Friends group has raised over \$270,000 for the museum so far. To learn more about the Friends or to join, visit the museum's webpage (www.lex-co.sc.gov/museum).

Highlighted Artifact from the Museum's Collections

The highlighted artifact for this issue is a collection of cased tintypes from the 1860s or 1870s that came out of the Buff family of Lexington County. One shows Mr. Martin Buff wearing a dark jacket, one shows an unidentified man (possibly a Kleckley) wearing a light vest, and the last one is of an unidentified lady (probably Ellen Frances Kleckley who married Martin Buff). Tintypes were photos on thin sheets of metal and were common in the 1860s and 1870s. Come see this and more artifacts from the West Columbia area and the rest of Lexington County at the museum!

